

- - REMARKS - -

Claims 1-25 remain under consideration. Claims 3-25 are allowed. The allowability of claim 2 is noted.

Claim 2 has been amended herein from dependent to independent form, including all limitations of the base claims from which they directly depend, thereby placing claim 2 in condition for allowance, in accordance with paragraph 4 of the Office Action.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 102(b)

The rejection of claim 1, as being anticipated by Hansen, US Patent number 4,022,301, is traversed.

Claim 1 requires, a brake apparatus comprising brake means including a drive motor having a shaft that is rotatable about an axis for actuation of the brake means, and *jaw-tooth clutch means for selectively locking the shaft against rotation about the axis*. [Emphasis added].

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion in paragraph 2 of the present Office Action, Hansen does not disclose *jaw-tooth clutch means for selectively locking a shaft against rotation about an axis*, and cannot therefore anticipate claim 1.

The brake mechanism 5 of Hansen is a friction type brake, and not a jaw-tooth clutch as is required by claim 1 of the present Application. The brake mechanism 5 of Hansen includes a disc 12 of a material, having a high coefficient of friction that is mounted on a square hub 11, of a motor shaft 7, in a manner that allows the disc 12 to move axially but not rotationally with respect to the shaft 7. See, Hansen col. 2, ln. 25-32. A chordal portion or segment of the disc 12 is received between a pair of inner and outer jaws 13, 14, which are essentially elongated steel bars. Id, at col. 2, ln. 32-36. The disc 12 rotates with the shaft 7, and is gripped between non-rotating jaws 13, 14, See Hansen abstract, to provide braking action to the shaft 7 by virtue of friction forces generated between the disc 7 and the jaws 13, 14.

There is no disclosure in Hansen that the jaws 13, 14 and/or disc 12 include any type of mating teeth, as are required for a jaw-tooth clutch, as the term jaw-tooth clutch is understood by those having skill in the art and used in the present application. See, for example FIG. 2 and page 5 lines 5-7 of the present application, ("The rotating and translating jaws 30, 32 [of the jaw-tooth clutch 18] each have axially directed mating teeth 31, 33 affixed on mating surfaces of the jaws 30, 32 that allow the jaw-tooth clutch to lock the shaft 20 against rotation about the axis 22.").

SUMMARY

Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and notification of allowance are respectfully requested.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS AND FEES

By this amendment the Applicants have amended one formerly dependent claim to independent form, occasioning additional fees for amending the one originally filed dependent claim to independent form. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee required for amending one dependent claim to independent form to deposit account number 50-1713. The Applicants believe that no other fees are occasioned by the submittal of this paper. The commissioner is authorized, however, to charge any fees or credit any refunds occasioned by submittal of this paper to deposit account number 50-1713.

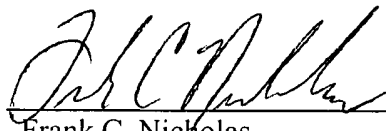
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Respectfully submitted,
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